

Cold War Review

AP European History

The Emergence of the Cold War...

observations

- American President Truman worked hard to avoid Russian intervention against Japan in World War II. – (partially the reason for the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki?)
- the Americans had the strongest military forces in the world but made no attempt to roll back Soviet power in Europe
- America's peacetime goals reflected American ideals and served American interests
- the USSR wished to expand its borders and influence to ensure its security and pave the way for worldwide domination

The “Iron Curtain”



- 1946: Churchill called the Soviet domination of E. Europe the “Iron Curtain.”
- Stalin held a series of unfair elections and coups to install communist puppets in most of the E. European nations.
 - ▣ Poland: 1947
 - ▣ Czechoslovakia: 1948
 - ▣ Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, and Yugoslavia: 1946-47

Truman Doctrine: The West Takes a Stand

- The USSR was supporting communist rebels in Greece & Turkey.
- Truman asked Congress for money to aid the governments to withstand the rebels' assaults.
 - ▣ This became the Truman Doctrine, stating that the US would provide aid to any free nation fighting off communism.
 - ▣ The Truman Doctrine became the basis of the US policy of “containment”-given the name by George Kennan

Military Alliances

- The lines between the Western Bloc and the Eastern Bloc were formally drawn with the creation of two alliances.
 - ▣ 1949: **NATO** (North Atlantic Treaty Organization): designed to protect W. Europe from Communist aggression
 - ▣ 1955: **Warsaw Pact**: designed to protect E. Europe from capitalist influence.

The Marshall Plan



- 1947-1951: The US provided \$13 billion in economic assistance to Western Europe to help Europe rebuild after WWII.
- This aid was provided, in part, so that western European nations could resist the pull of communism.

Review: Truman's Containment Policies



- **containment** – resist Soviet expansion in the expectation that the USSR would eventually collapse from internal pressures and the burden of its foreign oppression
- **The Truman Doctrine** – US pledged to support free people resisting oppression.
- **The Marshall Plan** – Provided broad U.S. economic aid to European states as long as they work together for their mutual benefit. The Plan restored prosperity to Western Europe.

The Division of Germany



- The Big Three agreed at Potsdam on the division of Germany.
 - ▣ Britain, France, the US, and the USSR each controlled one zone of occupation.
- The western powers wanted to see the economic and political restructuring of Germany, while the USSR wanted to maintain Germany as a communist buffer state.

Crisis in Germany



- Spring, 1948: The western powers introduced a new currency into their zones and requested the reunification of the zones.
- ▣ Stalin refused to allow a democratic Germany and withheld his zone from the German constitutional convention.
- ▣ The western powers decided to proceed without him and continued to help Germany construct a new constitution.

The Berlin Blockade

- Stalin responded to western actions by blockading the city of West Berlin.
- The allies responded to the blockade with a massive airlift which supplied the city for 321 days. Called the Berlin Airlift
- Stalin was forced to withdraw his blockade in 1949--a major defeat for the Soviets.

The Postwar Division of Germany



- the Russians dismantled the Germans in the east, while the other Allies favored rebuilding Germany in the west
- **Berlin Blockade** – the Russians attempt to take over the capital city of Berlin, by blockading it from the Allies fails when the Allies airlift supplies into the city
- Germany is split into two – the democratic West Germany or German Federal Republic and the communist East Germany or German Democratic Republic



Map 29-2 **OCCUPIED GERMANY AND AUSTRIA**

At the war's end, defeated Germany, including Austria, was occupied by the victorious Allies in the several zones shown here.

Austria, by prompt agreement, was reestablished as an independent, neutral state, no longer occupied. The German zones hardened into an "East" Germany (the former Soviet zone) and a "West" Germany (the former British, French, and American zones). Berlin, within the Soviet zone, was similarly divided.



Map 29–8 THE BORDERS OF GERMANY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY Map A shows the borders of imperial Germany at the outbreak of World War I. Map B shows the borders of Germany after the Versailles peace settlement. Map C shows the borders of Germany after Hitler's invasion of the Rhineland, the Anschluss with Austria, the Munich Pact, the invasion of Czechoslovakia, and the invasion of Poland. Map D illustrates the division of Germany into the German Federal Republic (West Germany) and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) in the aftermath of World War II. Map E illustrates the borders of Germany after reunification in 1990.

...Name the Alliance Systems

- the democratic nations of Western Europe along with Canada and the United States form an alliance of mutual assistance known as the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**
- **the Council of Mutual Assistance (COMECON)**, completely controlled by the Soviets, is given formal recognition by the **Warsaw Pact**, which united the eastern European Communist nations
- Cold War takes shape and ends up in flash points in the Middle East, Asia, and North America

...Name the Alliance Systems

1950's

-**The Central Treaty Organization (CENTO)**-Greta Britain, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey, and US-formed to prevent the Soviet Union from expanding south

-**Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO)**-Australia, New Zealand, Britain, France, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, and US

** By mid 1950's- US allied militarily with 42 states around the world.

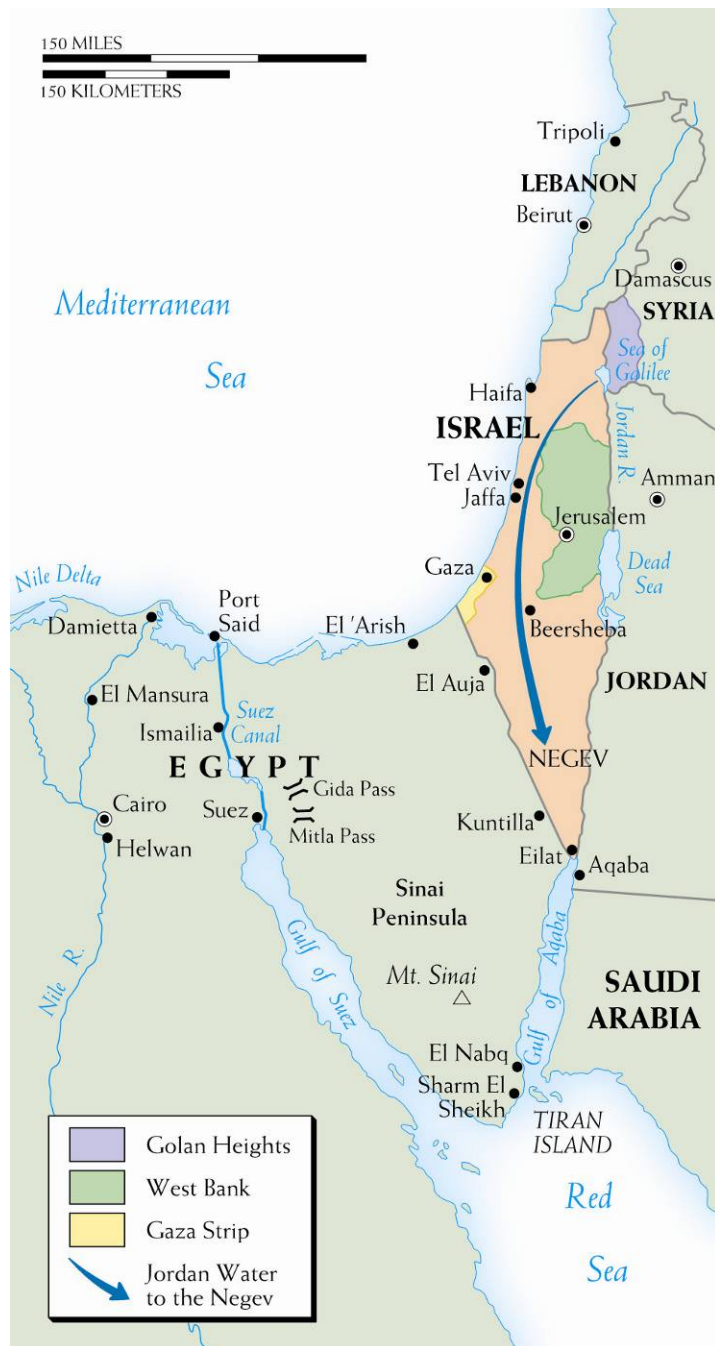


Map 29-3 MAJOR COLD WAR EUROPEAN ALLIANCE SYSTEMS

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which includes both Canada and the United States, stretches as far east as Turkey. By contrast, the Warsaw Pact nations were the contiguous Communist states of Eastern Europe, with the Soviet Union, of course, as the dominant member.

A Jewish State is Created

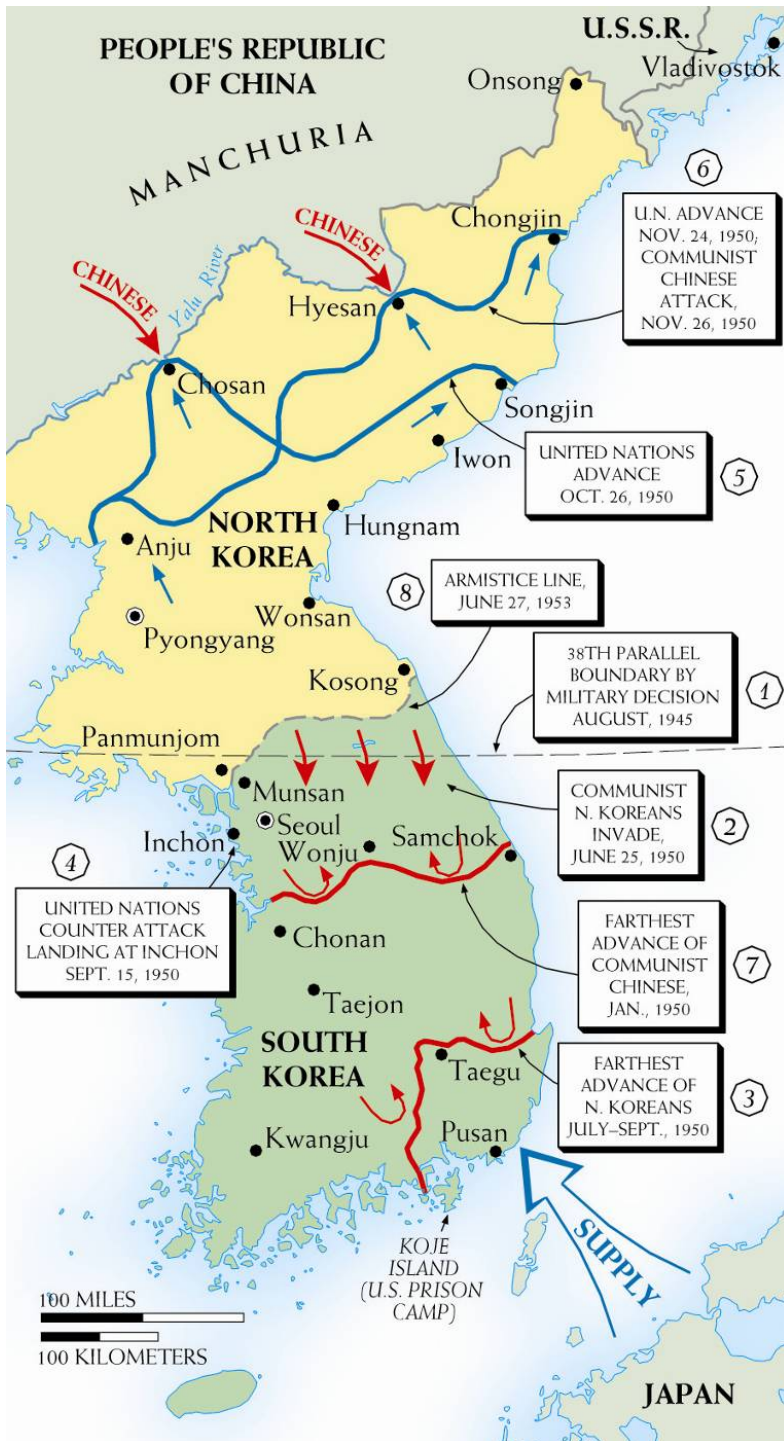
- British **Balfour Declaration** – **Arthur Balfour**, British Foreign Secretary declares that he favors the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine
- Arabs, consider the Jews invaders and violent conflict emerges
- **The United Nations Resolution – 1947** – the British turn the area over to the United Nations who partition the Palestine area into two (one Arab and one Jewish)
- **May 14, 1948 – independence of a Jewish state, Israel** is declared with the support of U.S. President Harry Truman
 - ▣ first prime minister was **David Ben-Gurion**
 - ▣ Arab nations; Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq immediately invade Israel but are defeated in 1949, as Israel expands its borders
- **Cold War implications – United States and Israel become firm allies, while the Soviet Union supports the Arabs**



Map 29-4 ISRAEL AND ITS NEIGHBORS IN 1949
The territories gained by Israel in 1949 did not secure peace in the region. In fact, the disposition of those lands and the Arab refugees who live there has constituted the core of the region's unresolved problems to the present day.

The Korean War

- after World War II, Korea is divided into two; Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the north supported by the Soviet Union and the Republic of Korea in the south supported by the United States
- North Korea invades the South by crossing the 38th parallel separating the countries
 - A U.N. sponsored action has mainly the United States helping defend South Korea
 - China helps support North Korea
 - President Eisenhower declares an armistice ending the war and keeping the borders the same to this very day



The Soviet Union Under Khrushchev

- Soviet Communist leader **Nikita Khrushchev** wanted to keep the dominance of the Communist Party but does reform some of Stalin's policies
- Khrushchev denounces Stalin's policies and purges and removes Stalin supporters from the government without executing them



1950s: Massive Retaliation & Peaceful Coexistence

- 1953-55 U.S. policy of "massive retaliation"-
Eisenhower's Policies
 - ▣ U.S. vows to destroy USSR with nuclear weapons if it tries to expand
 - ▣ **Brinksmanship** – the art of going to the brink of war to force the other side to back down
 - ▣ Relations between USSR and U.S. improve with ascension to power of Nikita Khrushchev
 - ▣ Khrushchev sought “peaceful coexistence” with the West in order to focus on Soviet economy

1955



□ 1955

- ▣ USSR agreed to real independence for a neutral Austria
 - Resulted in significant reduction in cold war tensions from 1955-1957

□ 1955 Geneva Summit

- ▣ US meets with USSR, Britain, & France to begin discussions on European security and disarmament
 - No agreements made

The “Secret Speech”....what was it?



- Feb 24-25, 1956-De-Stalinization
- In the speech, Khrushchev criticized actions taken by the regime of Joseph Stalin, particularly the purges of the military and the upper Party echelons, and the development of Stalin's personality cult, while maintaining support for the ideals of Communism by invoking Lenin.
- Given in secret, it's full text was not published until 1989, but the speech was leaked to the West beforehand.

Key points



- Before Stalin, the fight with the Trotskyites was purely ideological; Stalin introduced the notion of the "enemy of the people" to be used as "heavy artillery"
- Stalin violated Party norms of collective leadership
- Exaggerations of the role of Stalin in the Great Patriotic War (World War II)
- Manifestations of personality cult: songs, city names, etc.

The Three Crises of 1956

- **The Suez Crisis** – Egyptian President **Gamal Abdel Nasser** goes to war with Israel and nationalizes the Suez Canal
 - ▣ the British and French intervene militarily, but the United States refuses to
 - ▣ Soviet Union protest about the military intervention, but also do not intervene
 - ▣ result was Egypt maintains control of the canal, while United States and the Soviet Union show constraint in attempting to avoid war
- **Polish independent action** – Poland refuses Soviet choice for prime minister and put in **Wladyslaw Gomulka** as Communist leader of Poland / he ends up being acceptable to the Soviets
- **Hungarian uprising**
 - ▣ new ministry in Hungary led by **Imre Nagy**, wants to make the country neutral and out of the Warsaw Pact
 - ▣ Soviet troops invade Hungary, execute Nagy and put in **Janos Kadar** as premier

More Cold War Confrontations

- Launch of Sputnik and Yuri Gagarin in space.



The Soviets shoot down a U-2 aircraft that was spying in Russian airspace (1960) – Khrushchev demands apology from **President Eisenhower**, but does not get one nixing a planned summit between the two world power leaders

The Berlin Wall (1961)– tired of refugees leaving East Germany for free West Berlin, the East Germans and Soviets build a wall separating the two parts of the city – the United States protests, but does little else

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Bay of Pigs-1961

CIA Operation to train Cuban Exiles to take back Cuba
from Castro

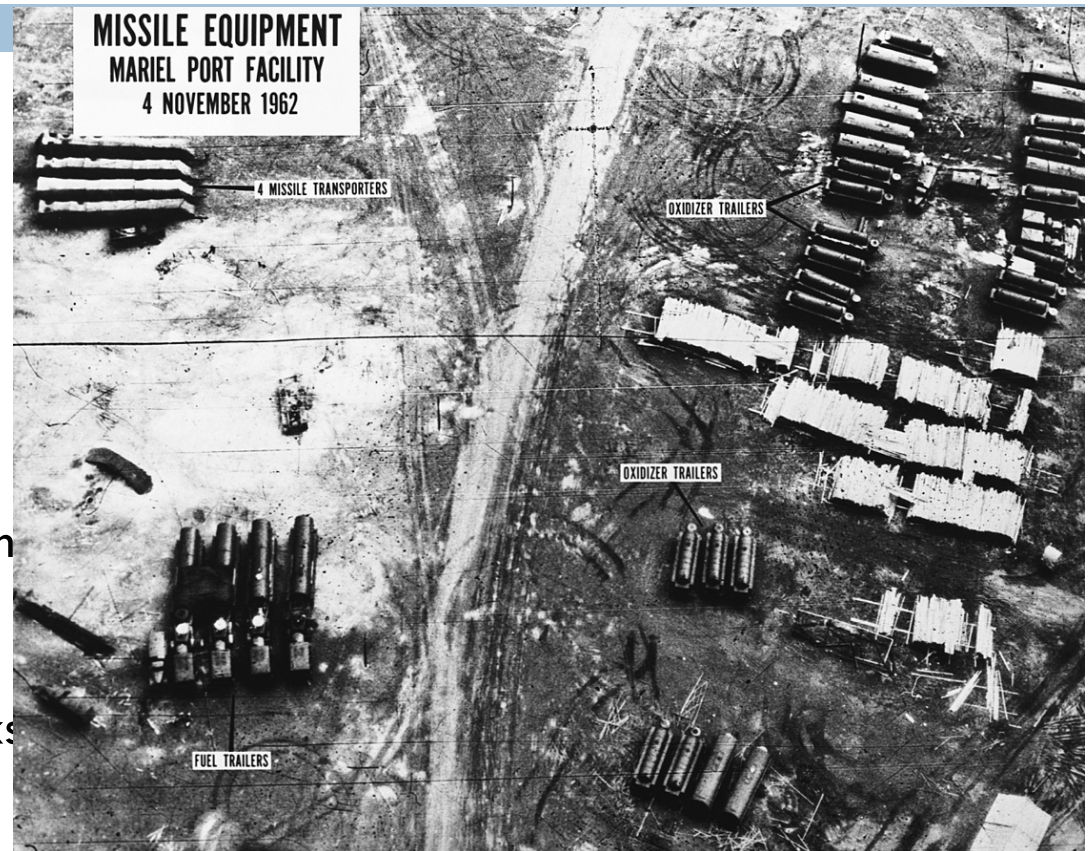
Failed Operation-made Kennedy (JFK) look weak



Cuban Missile Crisis

□ The Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)

- **Fidel Castro** topples dictatorship in Cuba and becomes Communist leader
 - Soviet Union plants missiles in Cuba
 - in response **President John Kennedy** – blockades Cuba and demands the removal of the missiles
 - seemingly at the brink of nuclear war – Khrushchev backs down and the Soviets pull out
- Soviet Union and United States sign test ban treaty in 1963



Economic Development After WWII

Western Europe

Economic Recovery in Western Europe



- **Marshall Plan** aid was used to provide the financial underpinnings for the post-war economic recovery and expansion of W. Europe.
 - ▣ This growth lasted until the economic downturn of the early 1970' s.

Economic Recovery



- For approximately a decade after the war, worker's wages failed to keep up with economic growth.
- To offset the potential social problems this could have caused, most W. European governments provided social welfare protection programs for their citizens.

West Germany

- By the 1950's, West Germany had evolved into a stable two-party democracy [Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and Social Democratic Party (SPD)].
- 1. Created in 1949 with the capital at Bonn. Its army limited to 12 divisions [275,000].
- 2. **Konrad Adenauer** (CDU) (Chancellor: 1949-1967) led W. Germany towards closer ties with the US and the other W. European nations.



West Germany, continued



- Following the death of Adenauer, Willy Brandt (SPD) took over and began a process called *Ostpolitik*, which meant he tried to open diplomatic contacts and with Eastern Europe.
- Brandt formally recognized E. Germany and accepted the post-war settlements in the east, thus easing tensions with the USSR, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

West Germany, continued



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Post-war Italy



- Following WWII, Italy adopted a new constitution which brought the Italian monarchy to an end and created a democratic republic (which still is there today).
- Two major parties dominated the new government: the communists (because they had been anti-fascist during the war) and the Christian Democratic Party.
- Italy remained in the W. European bloc.

Post-war France



- The 4th French Republic was formed after WWII, but it was plagued by the frequent changes in government ministries and by factionalism.
 - ▣ France had many small parties and so they all had to rely on multi-party coalitions to implement their policies.
- Women in France voted in parliamentary elections for the first time in 1946.

Fifth French Republic



- Using the Algerian crisis as a pretext, DeGaulle created the 5th French Republic in 1958, giving the French President much more power.
- DeGaulle used his power to build an independent France and to try to make France somewhat independent of America.

5th French Republic (1958-Present)

1. *Powerful President.*

* *first:* Charles
DeGaulle

2. *Weak Cabinet.*

3. *Weakened
legislature.*

4. *Separation of
powers.*



DeGaulle's Achievements



1. Settled the Algerian Crisis.
2. Made France a nuclear power.
3. Sustained general prosperity.
4. Maintained a stable, democratic government.
5. Made France more politically independent.

BUT, late '60s student unrest and social changes challenged him. In 1968 he resigned & died of a heart attack in 1970.

Post-war Great Britain



- The **British Labor Party** tried to direct national policy toward solving many problems, such as inadequate housing for workers, poor safety standards and wages in industries, and lack of security in employment.
- The Labor Party concentrated on many issues that had been big problems since the industrial revolution.

Britain, continued



- To avoid social unrest, the government enacted a variety of reforms.
- The British government nationalized the Bank of England, the railways, the airlines, and the coal & steel industries.
- The government also established old-age pensions, unemployment insurance, allowances for child-rearing, and the National Health Service.

Clement Attlee & the Labor Party: 1945-1951

1. Limited socialist program
[modern welfare state].

- ★ Natl. Insurance Act

- ★ Natl. Health Service
Act

2. Nationalized coal mines,
public utilities, steel
industry, the Bank of
England, RRs, motor
transportation, and aviation.

3. Social insurance legislation: “Cradle-to-Grave” security.

4. Socialized medicine → free national health care.



Churchill Returns: 1951-1955



He never really tried to destroy the “welfare state” established by Attlee’s government.

Reforms in Europe...review



- France and West Germany also faced many of the same social and economic problems that were found in Britain.
- The French communist party was somewhat powerful after WWII and forced many socialist reforms.
- West Germany also adopted many similar reforms to bring recovery and stability after the war.

The Cost of Reform



- The economic cost of these social & economic reforms was long debated.
 - ▣ Because the 1990's process of globalization often had a negative effect for the nations of W. Europe, (with their high wages and very comprehensive social welfare programs), they often found it much harder to compete in the global marketplace.
- Under Margaret Thatcher, there was a significant rollback of the Br. welfare state.

Implementation of Economic Reforms



- 1951: Formation of the European Coal & Steel Community.
 - ▣ Goal: to coordinate the production of coal & steel and to prevent some of the economic competition that had served as a cause for previous 20th century wars.

Economic Reforms, cont.



- 1958: **Formation of the European Common Market**
(now the European Economic Community--EC)
 - ▣ The EC was established to eliminate custom duties among the participating nations and to establish a common tariff on imports from the rest of the world.

European Union



- 1991: Members of the European Union (European Parliament) signed the **Maastricht treaty** in 1991 in Maastricht, Netherlands.
 - ▣ Goal: to establish a common European currency and a central banking structure by 1999.
 - ▣ The **Euro** is currently in use in member nations.

The Growth of the European Union

- EU original members 1957
- EU members by 1973
- EU members by 1986
- EU members by 1995
- EU members by 2004
- applicants to EU (with date of application)



Map 30–1 THE GROWTH OF THE EUROPEAN UNION This map traces the growth of membership in the European Union from its founding in 1957 through the introduction of its newest members in 2004. Note that Turkey though having applied for membership has not yet been admitted.

Crisis in Eastern Europe

Examples: post WWII to Bosnian Crisis

The Eastern European Satellites



- ❑ Following WWII, the USSR set as a priority the establishment of a system of satellite states in E. Europe.
- ❑ The USSR created the **Warsaw Pact** in 1955 to establish military control of its satellites.
- ❑ Economic conditions remained poor in most E. European nations, due to a lack of capital for economic development.

The Soviet Union Under Khrushchev

- Soviet Communist leader **Nikita Khrushchev** wanted to keep the dominance of the Communist Party but does reform some of Stalin's policies
 - decentralized economic planning and removed restrictions on private cultivations of wheat
- **The Secret Speech of 1956** – Khrushchev denounces Stalin's policies and purges and removes Stalin supporters from the government without executing them (destalinization)



Poland



- **1956:** Economic and political conditions similar to those found in E. Germany set off a series of strikes in Poland.
- The Polish government, working with the USSR, sent its troops into the streets to stop the strikers.
- This protest brought a slight raise in workers wages and was viewed as a success by the people, despite the bloodshed.

Hungary



- **1956:** Inspired by the Polish revolt of 1956, **Imre Nagy** of Hungary encouraged a variety of reforms.
 - ▣ Reforms included the creation of a multi-party state with Nagy as premier, a call for respect of human rights, the ending of political ties with the USSR, the release of many political prisoners, the creation of Hungary as a neutral nation, and the removal of Hungary from the Warsaw Pact.

Hungary, continued



- In response to Nagy's demonstrations, the Soviets decided to make an example of Hungary to prevent it from threatening their control of their whole system of satellite states.
- The Soviets invaded Hungary, killing thousands and setting up a police state. Reprisals were brutal.

American-Soviet Tensions



- Despite a visit to the US in 1959, tension was high between the superpowers.
 - 1959: Sputnik
 - 1960: U-2 Incident
 - 1961: Bay of Pigs Invasion
 - 1961: Berlin Wall
 - 1962: Cuban Missile Crisis

The Berlin Wall



- Political and Economic conditions in E. Germany and many other Eastern bloc nations remained so poor that millions were fleeing through West Berlin to freedom in western nations.
- The Berlin Wall was built in 1961 to stop the flow of refugees to the west.
 - ▣ This was seen and publicized as a barbaric move and became a visible symbol of the cold war conflicts.

Repression In Eastern Europe



- After the Berlin Wall was built in 1961 - **East Germany** developed the strongest economy of the Soviet bloc nations-in 1971 - Ulbricht was replaced by hard liner **Erich Honecker**-used the Stasi (secret police) to rule with a iron fist until 1989
- By 1965- **Romania** was led by Nicolai **Ceausescu**-ruled with an iron grip-also has a secret police
- *Romania would have the most violent independence when Communism collapsed

Detente



- Since the Cuban Missile Crisis had brought the superpowers so close to war, both sides decided to embrace a degree of détente, or peaceful coexistence.
 - ▣ Missile negotiations
- **Détente** was seen as a sign of weakness in the USSR and Khrushchev was ousted by 1964.

The Brezhnev Years



- **Brezhnev** replaced Khrushchev in 1964 and ruled the USSR until his death in 1982.
- Although he did not reinstate the terror of the Stalin era, he did seek to once again strengthen the role of the Communist party bureaucracy and the KGB.
- Brezhnev also clamped down on reform movements in the E. European satellite states and called for a “new cold war.”

Eastern Europe



- **1968: Prague Spring:** led by Alexander **Dubcek**, this reform movement in Czechoslovakia attempted to bring about “socialism with a human face,” while still remaining in the Soviet Bloc.
- Brezhnev saw this as a threat to the entire Warsaw Pact and initiated the **Brezhnev Doctrine** [The USSR would support with all means necessary (including military) any E. European communist state threatened by internal strife or external invasion.]
 - ▣ This was used as justification for the invasion of Czechoslovakia, ending reform.

Détente with the United States



- **Détente** is the easing of strained relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, a thawing at a period roughly in the middle of the Cold War.
- In the Soviet Union, détente was known in Russian: loosely meaning relaxation
- **President Richard Nixon** and Brezhnev conclude agreements on trade and reduction of nuclear arms
- Soviets pursue activist foreign policy maneuvers in many African nations, Nicaragua, and Vietnam

Détente in the Late 70s

- Under Gerald Ford, the US and USSR sign the SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty)
- the United States, along with the Soviet Union and other European nations, also sign **Helsinki Accord** recognizing the Soviet sphere of Eastern Europe as long as human rights are protected
- **President Jimmy Carter** demands the Soviets follow the Helsinki Accord, cooling relations between the countries



End of Détente



- The Soviet Union, wanting more of a presence in the Middle East, invades Afghanistan
- United States sends aid sent to Afghan rebels, which included radical Muslims
- The invasion fails, weakening and demoralizing Soviets
- Future SALT talks are abandoned
- The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan that was to shore up a struggling allied regime led to harsh criticisms in the west and a boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympics, which were to be held in Moscow.
- The 1980 American presidential election saw Ronald Reagan elected on a platform opposed to the concessions of Détente.

Communism in Poland



- Protest strikes led by **Lech Walesa**, occur across the country in response to the rise in meat prices
- September 1980 – Polish Communist Party replaced by independent union called **Solidarity**

Response to Solidarity



- 1981 – **General Wojciech Jaruzelski** becomes head of the Communist Party, declares martial law and arrests Solidarity leaders
- **Pope John Paul II** – Polish papal who was an outspoken critic of communism

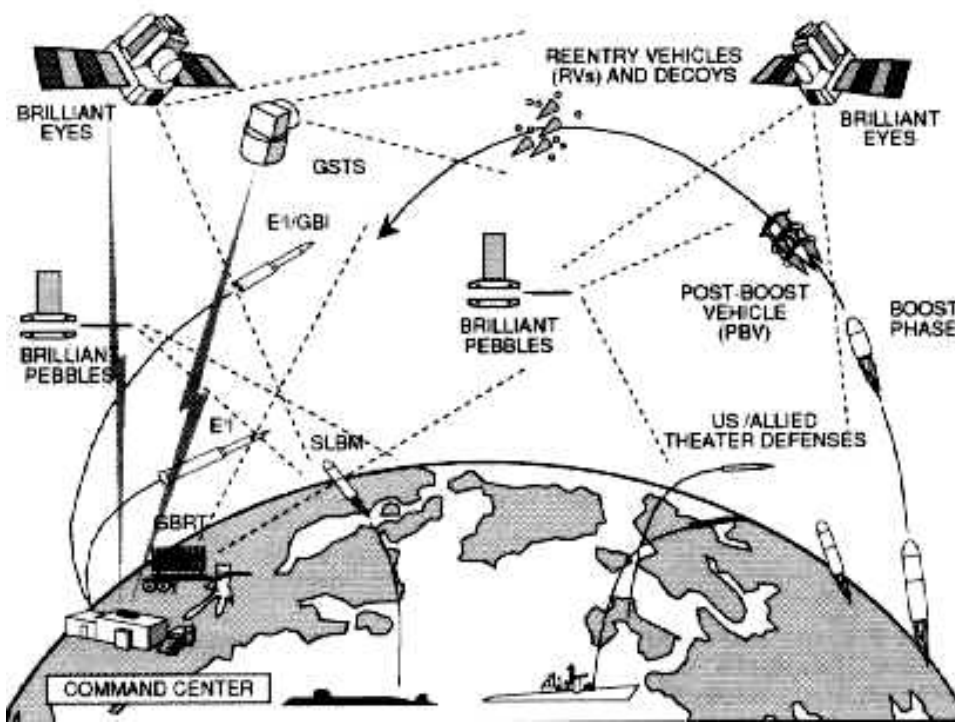
Eastern European Protests

- ❑ Poland – Solidarity (ship worker's union)
- ❑ Leader – Lech Walesa
- ❑ Membership skyrockets to approximately 20-25% of the country
- ❑ Led to jail time under martial law
- ❑ Poland was first country to peacefully leave Communism in 1989



Solidarność

President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Relations



- **Reagan** in his first term, intensifies Cold War rhetoric, increases military spending, slows arms limitations, and plans to deploy a **Strategic Defense Initiative**
- Russians in response increase military spending even though they couldn't afford to eventually bringing the country to economic collapse

Revolution in E. Europe

- Reform policies of **Mikhail Gorbachev** prevented the USSR from interfering in E. European internal affairs.
- This led to a series of revolutions in 1989 in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Albania, East Germany, and Romania.
- These nations started on the road to democracy and market economies and faced many political and economic struggles in the 1990' s.

The Reforms of Mikhail Gorbachev

- Economic **perestroika** – or “restructuring”
 - reduced size and importance of the centralized economic ministries
 - advocated private ownership of property and the steering of the economy towards a free market system
 - economic policies fail as economy remains stagnant
- **Glasnost** or openness- Gorbachev allows criticism of the government, less censorship, free expression encouraged and dissidents released from prison



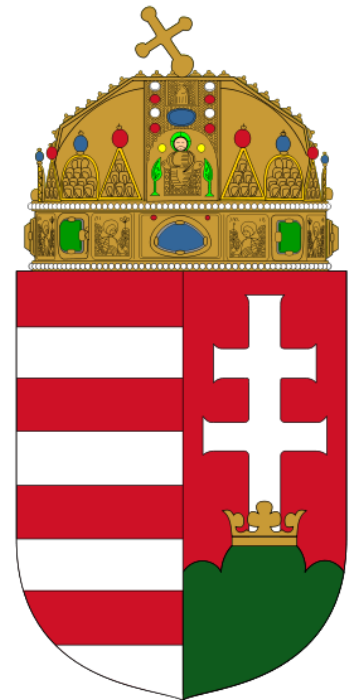
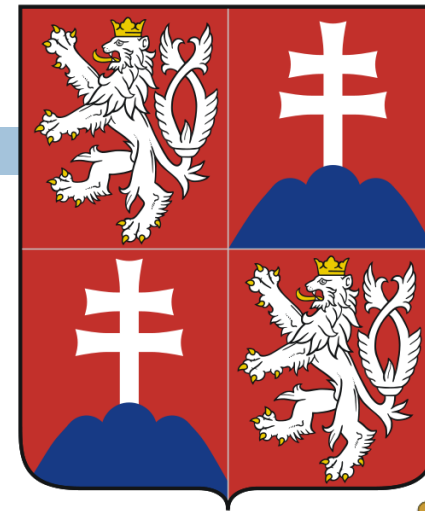
The USSR



- Gorbachev's policies of **glasnost (opening)** and **perestroika (restructuring)** combined with the political transformation of the Soviet satellites to create a desire for change in the Soviet population.
- Disasters such as the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the Chernobyl nuclear accident revealed the deplorable state of affairs within the nation.

Velvet Revolutions

- Czechoslovakia – students of Prague led peaceful protests
 - ▣ Communist leadership collapsed
 - ▣ Václav Havel - elected president; leading dissident
- Hungary – permitted free travel into Austria (release valve)
 - ▣ Became route of exodus
 - ▣ Multiparty elections



East Germany



- A flood of refugees traveled from E. Germany to Hungary where Hungary allowed their free passage to W. Germany.
- The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 marked the end of the Communist regime that had oppressed many since 1945.
- 1990: Reunification of East and West Germany.

Problems in the USSR



- Gorbachev saw the need for change but wanted the Communist party to lead and control the changes.
 - ▣ His economic changes were very slow and reformers, such as **Boris Yeltsin**, wanted him to speed up the process.
- 1990: The Soviet government was forced to allow the political participation of non-Communist parties.

More Problems



- As the political and economic structure of the USSR began to collapse, nationalist movements throughout the USSR also popped up, beginning with the declaration of independence by Lithuania.
- Other republics, such as Estonia, Latvia, Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan soon followed.
 - By 1992, 17 republics had broken away.

Revolution in Russia



- December 1990: Gorbachev appointed a few hard-liners to government positions hoping to stop the tide of rebellion.
 - ▣ Hard liners were very concerned about the break away republics and wanted to stop the secessionist movement.
- This move backfired and started a rivalry between Gorbachev and Yeltsin (a reformer and Chairman of the Russian Parliament)

The coup d'etat

- **August 1991:** While Gorbachev was on vacation, the hard-line communists staged a coup and placed him under house arrest in his summer home in the Crimea.
 - ▣ This was done because the hard-liners feared that Gorbachev's policies were threatening the existence of the Communist party.
- **Yeltsin** bravely stood atop a tank outside the parliament building and led the resistance, thus becoming the popular hero of the revolution.

The Coup Fails



- As a result of Yeltsin's leadership and the popular support for the reform movement, the coup failed, and the hard-liners were discredited.
- August 1991-December 1991: More of the Soviet republics continued to break away, further weakening the USSR.
- December 1991: The USSR was dissolved and Gorbachev resigned.

Problems in Russia



- ❑ The Commonwealth of Independent States was formed in 1992, but was ineffective and short-lived because break-away republics feared that Russia had too much power in the confederacy.
- ❑ The new Russian Republic faced serious political, social, and economic challenges, many of which still continue, today.
- ❑ The mob became very influential in Russia and many break-away republics, as well.

Russia under Yeltsin and Putin

- Yeltsin's troubled reign
 - ▣ Yeltsin supported by the West puts down Parliament protest that attempts to overthrow him
 - ▣ new Parliament and constitution voted on in 1993
 - ▣ Russia at war with Islamic province of Chechnya still to this day
 - ▣ economic downturn due to corruption by the “oligarchs”, defaults on international debts and political assassinations
 - ▣ Yeltsin resigns in 1998 and is replaced by **Vladimir Putin**



Chechnya

- More trouble with Chechnya as Putin renews war and spawns a major act of terrorism in which Chechens take over an elementary school, take 1,200 hostages and eventually when confronted by troops kill 330 people, mostly children
- Putin in response centralizes power more
- Russia today
 - ▣ Putin's Russia still more democratic than the Soviets even with his concentration of power
 - ▣ corruption and violent crime on the rise
 - ▣ economy stagnant, social and educational systems in decay
 - ▣ life expectancy declining



Civil War and the Collapse of Yugoslavia

- Yugoslav leader **Tito** keeps the many different ethnic and national groups under control – his death eventually leads the country into chaos and civil war
- Nationalist leaders **Slobodan Milosevic** in Serbia and **Franjo Tudjman** in Croatia gain authority



Ethnic cleansing

- The Tragedy of Yugoslavia:
 - ▣ Slovenia withdraws (some fighting)
 - ▣ Croatia withdraws (more fighting)
 - ▣ Bosnia-Herzegovina withdraws (intense, genocidal fighting)
- Factors: religion, ethnicity
 - ▣ Bosnians – Muslim (submitted to Turks)
 - ▣ Croats – Catholic (Western; Slavs)
 - ▣ Serbs – Orthodox (Eastern; Slavs)
- “Greater Serbia” – state of Serbia sought to control all lands where Serbs lived

Former Yugoslavia



Ethnic diversity at its finest

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Serbia and Montenegro have asserted the formation of a joint independent state, but this entity has not been formally recognized as a state by the United States.

Macedonia has proclaimed independent statehood, but has not been formally recognized as a state by the United States.

Kosovo

- Part of Serbia, majority Albanian population
- Albanians were Muslim majority, state of Albania in no position to be able to fight back
- NATO intervened, bombing Serbian targets
- Peace established, after 800,000 Kosovars displaced

Yugoslavia and Civil War

- 1991 – Slovenia and Croatia declare independence from Yugoslavia
- civil war erupts in 1992 between Serbs and Croats
 - ▣ Serbia accuses Croatia of fascism / while Croatia accuses Serbia of being a Stalinist regime
 - ▣ both forces attempt to divide up Bosnia-Herzegovina
 - ▣ Muslims in Bosnia are caught in the middle and are subject to “**ethnic cleansing**” by the Serbs
- Balkanization



The Bosnian Settlement



- Due to the atrocities that were being done by the Serbs, the US and other NATO nations got involved to stop the killing.
- This led to the US-brokered Dayton Accords of 1995 which ushered in an era of precarious peace in Bosnia.
 - ▣ The US and UN sent peacekeepers to protect the Bosnian Muslims.
 - ▣ War Crimes trials were held to convict those responsible for the ethnic cleansing.